

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1521

By Walley

A RESOLUTION to commend William L. "Sonny" Howse for his honorable and astute service as Haywood County Trustee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is William L. "Sonny" Howse, who has evinced the greatest integrity and probity as the Haywood County Trustee and will be taking his well-deserved retirement at the end of his current term in office; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Haywood County, Sonny Howse was first elected to serve as Haywood County Trustee for a four-year term beginning on September 1, 1986, and since that time, he has never had an opponent; and

WHEREAS, during his more than three-decade tenure, Mr. Howse has rendered sterling service, earning the respect and admiration of the residents of Haywood County, especially those who have been fortunate to work in his office; and

WHEREAS, as Trustee, he has strived to be financially conscious and advocate for minimal tax increases; he has been quoted many times as saying, "When your outgo is more than your ingo, your downgo is not far behind"; and

WHEREAS, a Certified Public Administrator since April 1990, Sonny Howse is a trusted leader among his peers, having served terms as President of the Tennessee Trustees Association and President of the County Officials Association of Tennessee (COAT) and as a member of the COAT Board, serving as Finance Committee Chair for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS, often duly honored for his good work, Mr. Howse was named Outstanding Trustee in 2007, 2016, and 2018 and Outstanding County Official in 2005; and

WHEREAS, active throughout his community, he has served as President of the local Farm Bureau since 1983 and a member of Brownsville Rotary Club since 1986; he is a past President of the local Co-op, Chairman of Senior Citizens, and a longtime member of Brownsville Baptist Church, where he also serves on the financial committee; and

WHEREAS, prior to his being elected Haywood County Trustee, Sonny Howse served his country valiantly as a member of the United States Army from 1962 to 1964, at which time he returned to his previously held position as the owner of a service station, working in that capacity until 1976; he has also devoted much of his life to farming and raising cattle; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many successes, Sonny Howse has been grateful for the love and support of his beloved wife of nearly fifty-seven years, Fay Leath Howse; two wonderful daughters, Kimberly Howse (Brad) Bishop and the late Kristie Howse (Ricky) Morris; and two handsome grandsons, Will Voss and Hutch Voss; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Howse is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend William L. "Sonny" Howse for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee as Haywood County Trustee and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to

the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.